## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 COME-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 BIB-01 TRSE-00 /045 W

-----126310 150958Z/20

R 141140Z NOV 77 FM AMEMBASSY DOHA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3136

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DOHA 1328

DEPT ALSO FOR SER/CFS, A/AID AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ETEL, QA

SUBJECT: INVITATION FOR TELECONSULT VISIT

REF: DOHA 654 AND PREVIOUS, TELECONSULT TELEX TO JALAL MAHDI OF GOQ MIN OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: COMOFF TOLD BY MAHDI ON 13 NOV.
THAT MINISTRY HAS NOT AND APPARENTLY WILL NOT ISSUE
INVITATION FOR TELECONSULT REPS HALVERSON AND SCRAFFORD
TO VISIT QATAR. MAHDI SAID HE RAISED QUESTION WITH
MINISTER TWICE AND GOT NO ACTION. ACCORDING TO MAHDI, HE
AND OTHER TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ANXIOUS TO SEE
TELECONSULT BUT MINISTRY POLICY IS NOT RPT NOT TO SPONSOR
COMPANIES ENTERING FOR CONSULTATIONS.

2. MAHDI SAID ALL OTHER COMPANIES HAVE LOCAL AGENTS TO HANDLE DETAILS OF SPONSORSHIP TO ENTER FOR SHORT VISITS.

END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LOU: MAHDI HINTED THAT MINISTRY COULD HELP IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOCATING AGENT. WHEN ASKED DIRECTLY WHETHER EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM TELECONSULT THAT MINISTRY COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE, MAHDI SAID THAT WE SHOULD NOT CABLE THE INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO TELECONSULT. HE INFERRED THAT SOME INDIRECT MEANS OF PASSING THE INFORMATION WOULD BE BETTER.

4. MAHDI MENTIONED THAT THE MINISTER OF TRASNPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS HAS A TRADING COMPANY WHICH REPRESENTS SEVERAL TELECOM FIRMS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. DURING CONVERSATION, MINISTER'S SON ARRIVED AND TOLD COMOFF THAT THE FAMILY FIRM IS INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING US TELECOM FIRMS.

5. IT IS RATHER OBVIOUS THAT THE MINISTER'S FIRM WANTS TO BE TELECONSULT AGENT IN QATAR. ALSO OBVIOUS THAT TELECONSULT WILL NOT GET INTO QATAR WITHOUT LOCAL AGENT. HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT TELECONSULT WILL DO ANY BUSINESS HERE UNLESS MINISTER'S FIRM IS AGENT. NEXT STEP IS UP TO TELECONSULT--IF IT WANTS TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS TYPE OF ARRANGEMENT. END LOU.

6. ACTION: PLEASE PASS APPROPRIATE PORTIONS OF ABOVE INFORMATION TO TELECONSULT D.C. OFFICES: MR. ELLIOT MOULTON, 255 M STREET, N.W. WASH NGTON, D.C. KILLGORE

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: INVITATION FOR TELECONSULT VISIT

TAGS: BEXP, ETEL, QA, US

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